## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

January 14, 2002

you're all racist and I...and I control the Legislature. Well, we've found over the years, and I agree with my colleagues, Senator Chambers does not control the Legislature. We allow him to do many things here because of the rules, but he does not control me, he does not control us. The ... as far as being racist, I... far as I'm concerned he's totally wrong in that And as far as us being...him being the smartest, I can't argue with that. That's a matter of opinion, and he is a very intelligent person so maybe he is the smartest one here, but as far as us being all stupid, he might have hit. hit us. hit right on the mark because we have allowed him to basically try to control the Legislature these last eight years since I've So I'm all in favor of these rules changes as far as the...the...getting rid of the eight-hour cloture rule. would like to see, in addition to that, two things. like to be able to override the Speaker. I have faith in our Speaker and I don't ... and I don't have any problem if he decides there isn't...we haven't spent enough time in debate that we should continue on. Because I remember early when I first came down here that many times on some of these long debates that we are having, as far as the filibusters and so forth, we voted on legislation that really had never been discussed. frivolous amendments and so forth, we talked about everything except the bill. It came down to a vote and people were voting on something that...the bill had never really been discussed. Unless you did private research, you didn't know what was in the bill. So I do believe we do need adequate debate, but the thing is I...and one...and one other thing, I do agree with Senator Brashear, and not because of outside influences. should go to 30 votes because it only take 25 votes to pass a law, it takes only 30 votes to override the Governor's veto, but it takes 33 votes to get to a vote to close debate. are the changes I would like to see, but I guess we have to do this at a step at a time, and I'm certainly in favor of the...of this rule change.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: (Visitors introduced.) Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, we spoke a little bit about the uncertainty of things, no matter what we do really, but some have spoken of the uncertainty of